



NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Social Services

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Subsidized Employment Opportunities Available for Low-Income Youth through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Sacramento – California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Director John Wagner today encouraged state and local agencies that help low-income youth find summer employment to apply for funding available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). This is a critical time for California's youth labor force whose work opportunities have dwindled in the current economic recession.

"Subsidized summer employment programs can provide California's youth labor force valuable skills and experience that lead to unsubsidized employment, job stability, and income growth in the future," said Wagner. "I support the efforts of local agencies to explore the benefits of subsidized employment for welfare-to-work eligible and foster youth."

The CDSS is planning to release an All-County Information Notice today alerting counties of the opportunity to use potentially millions of dollars in ARRA funds that California may be eligible for to create, expand and maintain subsidized employment programs targeted at low-income youth. In addition to ARRA funding there are Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Wagner-Peyser funds. WIA and Wagner-Peyser funds can be used to offer a wide array of services helping youth gain and retain employment, while ARRA funds can provide subsidized employment and other services to low-income youth.

In general, the targeted populations are welfare-to-work youths or foster youth in a welfare-to-work home that are 24-years of age and under. ARRA funding is scheduled to end on September 30, 2010 and should be taken into account when designing these programs.

For more details, view CDSS' [All-County Information Notice, \(ACIN I-34-10\)](#).

For parties interested in partnering with the local county welfare department to provide employment opportunities for youth, please view the list of [county contacts](#).

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